

PROCLAMATION

BY THE

Gouvernor of the State of Texas

TO ALL TO WHOM THESE PRESENTS SHALL COME:

June 17, 1977

As provided under the provisions of Section 14, Article IV of the Constitution of the State of Texas, I disapprove of S.B. 697 and am filing same with the Secretary of State setting forth the following objections:

I disapprove of Senate Bill No. 697, relating to coin-operated amusement machines. The bill would eliminate the ability of cities and town to tax, regulate, or prohibit billiard tables which are coin-operated and therefore subject to regulation and taxation by the state as coin-operated amusement machines. There is no reason why a machine which satisfies both criteria for regulation and taxation should not be subject to regulation and taxation at both the local and state levels.

Cities and towns would lose revenue from the elimination of the ability to tax the operation of these billiard tables. Cities and towns should have the ability to control establishments in which the devices are operated.

Additionally, the bill would eliminate the ability of political subdivisions to consider the exhibition of coin-operated amusement machines for zoning purposes except in very limited situations. A political subdivision should not be forced to blind itself to this aspect of the operation of an establishment in its zoning determinations.

IN TESTIMONY WHEREOF, I have hereunto signed my name officially and caused the seal of the State of Texas to be affixed hereto at Austin, Texas, this 17th day of June, 1977.



DOLPH BRISCOE
Governor of Texas

MARK WHITE
Secretary of State